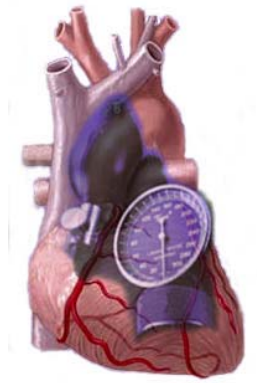


Directory of Cardiovascular Organizations and Related Websites



This directory is an expanded list of government agencies, voluntary associations, and private organizations that provide cardiovascular information and resources.

These organizations and related websites offer educational materials and support to people with cardiovascular disease and the general public. Other sites are specific to health care professionals.

Links to non-federal organizations are provided solely as a service to our users. Links do not constitute an endorsement of any organization by the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) or the Department of Defense (DoD) and none should be inferred. The AMEDD and the DoD is not responsible for the content of the individual organization's web page found via these web sites or their links.

Updated and current as of July 2004.

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DIABETES WEB SITES and RELATED INFORMATION

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

www.ahrq.gov/ The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) provides evidence-based information on health care outcomes, quality, cost, use, and access. Information from AHRQ's research helps people make more informed decisions and improve the quality of health care services.

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

<http://familydoctor.org/> Provides online patient information and a resource for patient education booklets and pamphlets covering cardiovascular diseases.

American Heart Association (AHA)

<http://www.americanheart.org> A national voluntary health agency whose mission is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke. This site features a menu with links for warning signs of a heart attack, access to the American Stroke Association, various diseases and conditions including high blood pressure, cholesterol, heart attacks, congestive heart failure and much more. Also included are children's conditions, CPR classes, health tools (including a risk assessment tool) and patient information sheets which can be personalized for each health facility. Additional resources include healthy lifestyle links with information on women and heart disease, heart and stroke information, and an A to Z guide.

American Heart Association Journals

<http://www.ahajournals.org/> A link for health care professionals to all journals from the American Heart Association - Hypertension, Circulation, Stroke and others. Some abstracts are available but complete articles require a fee-required account.

American Red Cross

<http://www.redcross.org> A humanitarian organization led by volunteers, guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. Click on health and safety "Frequently Asked Questions" for links to CPR training and other health topics. The American Red Cross encourages the public to recognize the signals of a heart attack and how to care for a heart attack victim.

American Stroke Association

www.strokeassociation.org Focused on reducing disability and death from stroke through research, education, fundraising and advocacy. The American Heart Association created the American Stroke Association after many years of increasing emphasis on stroke. This site has information and links to warning signs of stroke, stroke care and stroke programs.

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

<http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/list.html> Food and nutrition information from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Center of Excellence for Medical Multimedia (CEMM)

<http://www.cemm.org> The Center of Excellence for Medical Multimedia is located at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. This web site has numerous resources for patients and providers; tools, products, and a newsletter as well as research.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes> The goals are to build a nationwide program to prevent heart disease and stroke, reduce disparities in cardiovascular health among high-risk populations, to define geographic variations in the risk factors and the rates of illness and death associated with heart disease and stroke, to promote secondary prevention of heart disease and stroke, to increase research into heart failure and to develop interventions to prevent it and to develop and assess new methods for preventing heart disease and stroke

**CDC National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Cardiovascular Health Program**

<http://www.cdc.gov/cvh/index.htm> To provide public health leadership to improve cardiovascular health for all, reduce the burden, and eliminate disparities associated with heart disease and stroke.

Consumer Information Center

<http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/health.htm> This site offers publications for consumers addressing general health, cardiovascular disease, diet, and medications.

Coronary Heart Disease Risk Assessment

<http://www.chdrisk.com> Allows assessment of the risk for developing heart disease over a ten year time frame based on two analyses of data from the Framingham Heart Study.

Deputy Heart Attack

<http://deputyheartattack.org> Developed by a physician to educate the public about how to recognize a heart attack in progress and helping to save one another from dying of heart attacks.

Dietary Guidelines for Americans

<http://www.health.gov/dietaryguidelines> Online access to the fifth edition of "Nutrition & Your Health: Dietary Guidelines for Americans," a joint publication of the U.S. Departments of Health & Human Services and Agriculture.

Doctor's Guide to the Internet

<http://www.pslgroup.com> Doctor's Guide was designed to help physicians cost-effectively harness the resources of the Internet and the World Wide Web. This site provides the latest medical news and information for professionals and patients with links to other sites.

Food and Drug Administration

<http://www.fda.gov> The Food and Drug Administration website provides a wide array of information directed at both the healthcare professional and the consumer on a variety of topics. Some areas of interest are foods, human drugs, biologics, regulations and

information and medical products. Specific website for new drug information for the consumer is found at: <http://www.fda.gov/cder/consumerinfo/default.htm>

Food Guide Pyramid Booklet

<http://www.usda.gov/cnpp/pyrabklet.pdf> The food guide pyramid is a general guide based on dietary guidelines. The pyramid calls for eating a variety of foods for necessary nutrients and shows a range of servings that includes a range of calories. This booklet helps determine what one serving consists of and the amount of calories in it.

For Your Heart

<http://www.4woman.gov/> Information for women about cardiovascular disease, including exercise, nutrition, smoking, diabetes, cholesterol, and high blood pressure.

Foundation for Accountability (FACCT)

www.facct.org A nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals make better health choices. The site contains information directed at educating consumers on healthcare quality; has an online survey that assesses the health care experiences of adults with cardiovascular disease.

Get With the Guidelines (GWTG)

<http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=1165> A link that has a premier hospital-based quality improvement program from the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association. It is designed to empower the healthcare provider team to consistently treat every patient with the most updated treatment guidelines. The program seeks to leverage the “teachable moment” immediately after a patient has had an acute event – when patients are most likely to listen to and follow their healthcare provider’s guidance. GWTG includes tools that allow healthcare providers to concurrently assess treatment compliance so appropriate action can be taken before the patient leaves the facility. Provider-to-provider communication helps re-enforce these lifesaving therapies and provides an essential link in the circle of the healthcare team

Hardin Meta Directory (MD) of Internet Health Sources

www.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin/md A directory that contains a list of websites related to heart disease or other disease states.

Healthfinder

<http://www.healthfinder.org> A Department of Health and Human Services search engine that allows a link for numerous cardiovascular related web resources and organizations. Healthfinder® is a free gateway to reliable consumer health and human services information developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Healthfinder® can lead to online publications, clearinghouses, databases, web sites, and support and self-help groups, as well as the government agencies and not-for-profit organizations that produce reliable information for the public.

HealthLinks – University of Washington

<http://healthlinks.washington.edu/> Provides educational information through links to other sites.

Heart Center Online

<http://www.heartcenteronline.com> A cardiovascular specialized health care site to provide cardiovascular patients, their families and other site visitors with the tools they need to better understand the complex nature of heart-related conditions, treatments and preventive care, and to provide services and applications that deliver value to cardiology practices. Patients can sign up and get a cardiovascular risk assessment online.

Heart Failure Online

<http://www.heartfailure.org> Improving cardiovascular health through creation and communication of knowledge is the primary intent for this site as well as to gather and exchange the latest health information and technology, especially to help individuals with heart failure feel better and live longer. This site also provides basic understandings of cardiovascular function.

Heart Information.org

<http://www.heartinfo.com> An independent, educational Web site that provides consumers with instructional information and services for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease. Heartinfo is dedicated to empowering and encouraging consumers and health care professionals in their effort to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease.

HeartPoint

<http://www.heartpoint.com> Created by medical professionals to provide patients with a source of credible information about heart disease. This site is maintained from the perspective of physicians, physician assistants, and nurses who are active in clinical practice. It is for patients who have any type of disorder of the heart so that they understand the heart and how to care for it with the best graphic and written explanations that can be provided by the medical professionals.

HeartSite.com

<http://www.heartsite.com> Designed to provide information to patients who are evaluated and treated for a heart-related complaint. All contents are developed by physicians to ensure accuracy. Has drop-down menus and helps to educate patients regarding history, physical exam, tests and procedures, disease conditions and has a heart lecture with audio and visual slides.

IDEA The Health and Fitness Source

<http://www.ideafit.com> Support's the world's leading health and fitness professionals with credible information, education, career development and leadership to help enhance the quality of life worldwide through participation in safe, effective fitness and healthy lifestyle programs.

Interactive Healthy Eating Index

<http://www.usda.gov/cnpp> Provides a quick assessment of the quality of your diet, including nutrition information targeted to your specific score.

Institute for Health Care Improvement (IHI)

<http://ihi.org/> The institute for Health Care Improvement offers resources and services to help health care organizations make dramatic and long-lasting improvements that enhance clinical outcomes and reduce costs.

John Hopkins Heart Health

<http://www.jhbm.jhu.edu/cardiology> Part of a world-renowned center providing the highest quality cardiovascular care and research. The website has a link to “Healthy Directions”, health and health-related information for patients.

Joint Commission on Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO)

<http://www.jcaho.org> This is the Joint Commission on Accreditation for Healthcare Organizations website. It provides quality information and reports on Accredited Health Care Organizations. The user of the website has access to news releases, reporting complaints about a health care organization, a variety of sets of accreditation standards, patient safety and sentinel events, accreditation process and improvement initiatives, and ORYX performance measures.

Life Clinic

<http://www.lifeclinic.com/default.asp> An in-depth resource for information about prevalent, long-term health conditions and an online service to track one's health over time. It also provides the information, resources and tools that can help one become actively involved in the management of long-term health conditions such as high blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, or asthma.

LifeHeart.com

<http://www.lifeheart.com> An information resource about the heart, heart disease, and achieving a good quality of life.

Medicare

<http://www.medicare.gov> Numerous resources available including facts on the new prescription plan, health plan, nursing home, dialysis and home health comparisons, Medicare eligibility and coverage, participating physician directory, publications and more.

MEDLINEplus

www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus This site contains up-to-date, quality health care information from the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health, access to extensive information about specific diseases and conditions and links to consumer health information. Dictionaries, lists of hospitals and physicians, health information in Spanish and other languages, and clinical trials are also available.

Medscape

www.medscape.com/homepage This website aims to support all healthcare professionals in their everyday practice; providing a portal to high quality evidence-based guideline-related information, as well as a range of teaching materials and links to other medical information sites.

Mended Hearts

<http://www.mendedhearts.org> Offering the gift of hope to heart disease patients, their families and caregivers for more than 50 years. Recognized for its role in facilitating a positive patient-care experience, Mended Hearts partners with 460 hospitals and rehabilitation clinics and offers services to heart patients through visiting programs, support group meetings and educational forums. Because Mended Hearts is made up of the very kinds of people it serves—heart patients, their families, and others impacted by heart disease, its members draw on personal experience as they help others. This website offers links to Mended Hearts support groups to help people understand that there can be a rich, rewarding life after heart disease. It also has links to dealing and learning about heart disease and other heart information websites.

National Cholesterol Education Program

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cholesterol/index.htm> The goal of the NCEP is to contribute to reducing illness and death from coronary heart disease (CHD) in the United States by reducing the percent of Americans with high blood cholesterol. Through educational efforts directed at health professionals and the public, the NCEP aims to raise awareness and understanding about high blood cholesterol as a risk factor for CHD and the benefits of lowering cholesterol levels as a means of preventing CHD.

National Council on Patient Information and Education

<http://www.talkaboutrx.org> This site is designed to help consumers make sound decisions about a very important, and sometimes frequent, part of good health: use of medicines. Two out of three doctor visits end with a prescription being written. While taking medicines is very common, it's not always easy to take them correctly.

National Guideline Clearinghouse (NGC)

<http://www.ngc.gov/> The National Guideline Clearinghouse™ (NGC) is a public resource for evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. NGC is sponsored by the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) in partnership with the American Medical Association and the American Association of Health Plans.

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) Information Center

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/> Patient education materials are available on numerous topics including cholesterol, high blood pressure, asthma, heart disease, exercise, obesity, stroke, sarcoidosis, and Raynaud's phenomenon. Treatment guidelines for health professionals are available on high blood cholesterol, high blood pressure, and asthma. Professional materials are also available on heart and lung health in the workplace and schools. Their publication, "Heart Memo", provides program updates about cholesterol, high blood pressure, and heart attack.

National Heart Lung Blood Institute Interactive Websites and Special Web Pages

<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/subsites/index.htm> This site from the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute has interactive links to sites for both patients and providers who want information on High Blood Pressure; Healthy Weight; Heart Truth Campaign; Live Healthier, Live Longer; BMI Calculator; Hearts N' Parks; Heart Attack; Healthy People

2010 Gateway; NHLBI Express; Latino Cardiovascular Health Resources; Women's Health Initiative; Healthbeat Radio; and Interactive Health Quizzes.

National Institute of Health (NIH)

<http://www.nih.gov> Provides leadership and direction to programs designed to improve the health of the Nation by conducting and supporting research: in the causes, diagnosis, prevention, and cure of human diseases; in the processes of human growth and development; in the biological effects of environmental contaminants; in the understanding of mental, addictive and physical disorders; in directing programs for the collection, dissemination, and exchange of information in medicine and health. Has links to a variety of health conditions and topics.

National Stroke Association (NSA)

<http://www.stroke.org> A leading resource for stroke, NSA is the only national non-profit organization in the United States devoting 100 percent of its resources to stroke through a variety of innovative and high impact programs. Awareness initiatives have provided millions of Americans with life-saving tools to prevent stroke.

Nutrition.gov

www.nutrition.gov Provides easy access to all online federal government information on nutrition. This national resource makes obtaining government information on nutrition, healthy eating, physical activity, and food safety, easily accessible in one place for many Americans. Providing accurate scientific information on nutrition and dietary guidance is critical to the public's ability to make the right choices in the effort to curb obesity and other food related diseases in launching this new website.

Nutrition Navigator

<http://navigator.tufts.edu/> A rating guide to nutrition web sites.

Patient Administration Systems and Biostatistics Activity (PASBA)

<http://www.pasba.amedd.army.mil/> The PASBA is a division of the Program Analysis and Evaluation (PA&E) Directorate, U.S. Army Medical Command (MEDCOM). All medical treatment facility patient administrators and other personnel, can access this site to obtain late-breaking news regarding: regulation updates; procedural guidelines; directives; diagnostic coding and procedure changes; and other patient administration-related activities. Providers can use this link to get to the coding help desk.

Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity

<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/sgr/sgr.htm> This is the first Surgeon General's report to address physical activity and health. The main message of this report is that Americans can substantially improve their health and quality of life by including moderate amounts of physical activity in their daily lives.

The American Society of Hypertension(ASH)

<http://www.ash-us.org/> The largest US organization dedicated exclusively to hypertension and related cardiovascular disease with a mission of the Society to organize

and conduct educational activities designed to promote and encourage the development, advancement, and exchange of scientific information in all aspects of research, diagnosis, and treatment of hypertension, and related cardiovascular diseases.

The Canadian Hypertension Society

<http://www.chs.md/> This is a Canadian website for recommendations for the management of hypertension. It has a slide kit and clinical practice algorithms supporting the full recommendations which can be downloaded.

The Cleveland Clinic Heart Center

<http://www.clevelandclinic.org/heartcenter/> As leaders in cardiology, cardiac surgery, cardiothoracic anesthesia and research into the heart and its diseases, this website has links to categories on heart health listed on the left. Click on heart guide, then prevention for links to hypertension, heart disease and cholesterol.

The Franklin Institute Online

<http://sln.fi.edu/learn.html> The Franklin Institute Science Museum maintains this website and provides easily-accessible, up-to-date information for anyone interested in science education. There is an online exhibit of the human heart. On the heart exploration page, there is a table of contents with links to a healthy heart, diseases of the heart, the pulmonary system, blood vessels and the body fluids of life.

The Mayo Clinic

<http://www.mayoclinic.com> Useful and up-to-date information and tools that reflect the expertise and standards of excellence of the Mayo Clinic are provided. It provides access to the experience and knowledge of the more than 2,000 physicians and scientists of Mayo Clinic. Click on diseases and conditions, healthy living, drug search, ask a specialist, programs and tools, my health interests (requires log-in) and books and references for links to many good sites.

The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports (PCPFS)

www.fitness.gov Serves as a catalyst to promote, encourage and motivate Americans of all ages to become physically active and participate in sports.

The Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association

<http://www.pcna.net/#> Promoting clinically-proven treatments and positive lifestyle changes through professionals is the most effective way to encourage proper cardiovascular health in patients. This site, devoted to the needs of healthcare professionals rather than consumers, fosters professional development and highlights the field of preventive cardiovascular nursing.

The World Hypertension League (WHL)

<http://www.mco.edu/org/whl/index.html> The objectives are to promote the detection, control and prevention of arterial hypertension in populations.

Third Report of the Expert Panel on Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Cholesterol

http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/guidelines/cholesterol/atp3_rpt.htm The ATP III guidelines provide detailed information on topic areas such as classification of lipids and lipoproteins, coronary heart disease (CHD) risk assessment, lifestyle interventions, drug treatment, specific dyslipidemias, and adherence issues. Recommendations for special populations such as patients with CHD, patients at high risk for developing CHD, patients with diabetes, women, older Americans, young adults, and racial and ethnic groups are provided.

U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM)

<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/> CHPPM's mission is to provide worldwide technical support for implementing preventive medicine, public health, and health promotion and wellness services into all aspects of America's Army and the Army Community rapidly responding to operational needs and adapting to a changing world environment.

U.S. Army Medical Command, Quality Management Directorate (MEDCOM)

www.QMO.amedd.army.mil/ This is a DoD site with information on all VA/DoD clinical practice guidelines and other quality management initiatives in the Army Medical Department. Also has re-ordering information on clinical practice guideline tool kits and lists Air Force, Navy and VA POC's for tool kit orders.

U.S. Department of Defense PharmacoEconomic Center (PEC)

<http://www.pec.ha.osd.mil/> The Department of Defense PharmacoEconomic Center (PEC) provides state of the art pharmacoeconomic analysis for the purpose of improving readiness by increasing value, quality, and access to medical care and pharmacotherapy within the available resources of the Military Health System. The PEC works with the VA/DoD Clinical Practice Guideline Workgroup to formulate the drug therapy components of clinical practice guidelines and associated metrics. The "PEC Update" is a newsletter published by the PEC to disseminate information on pharmacoeconomic or pharmacotherapeutic issues relevant to the Military Health System.

Veterans Health Administration (VHA)

http://www.oqp.med.va.gov/cpg/DM/DM_base.htm The VHA Diabetes Clinical Practice Guidelines are a comprehensive, evidence-based document that incorporates information from several existing, national consensus, evidence-based guidelines into a format that maximally facilitates clinical decision making.

WebMD

<http://www.webmd.com/> Articles and links to all diseases and medical conditions, newsletters and alerts, boards and events, medical library, clinical trials, health insurance, diet and nutrition and much more.

Weight-Control Information Network (WIN)

<http://www.niddk.nih.gov/health/nutrit/win.htm> Fact sheets, pamphlets, reprints, consensus statements, reports, and literature searches on weight control, obesity, and

Cardiovascular Guideline Web Links and Related Websites

weight-related nutritional disorders are found here. WIN's newsletter, "WIN Notes," offers health professionals the latest research findings and progress about the WIN program.

Your Guide to Lowering High Blood Pressure

www.nhlbi.nih.gov/hbp Intended for people who are interested in learning more about preventing and controlling high blood pressure.